

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

The concentration of media power in a few hands leaves Americans too vulnerable to the potential manipulations of news and commentary by the forces that control it, which may be highly ideological. As well, the constriction of the marketplace endangers fair competition for programming, allowing cartel-like squeezing of programming providers receipts and even more monopolistic control of viewers' expenditure levels alike, particularly in the wake of federal bans on meaningful state and local government attention to these concerns.